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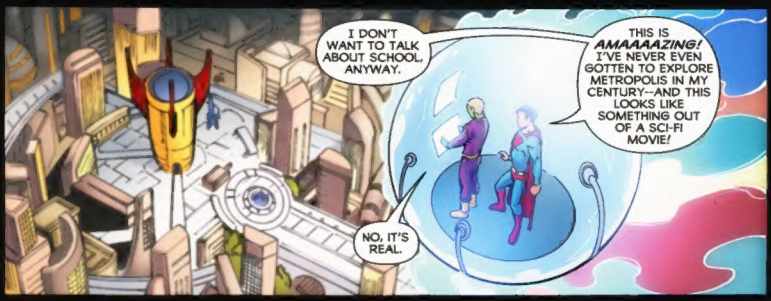
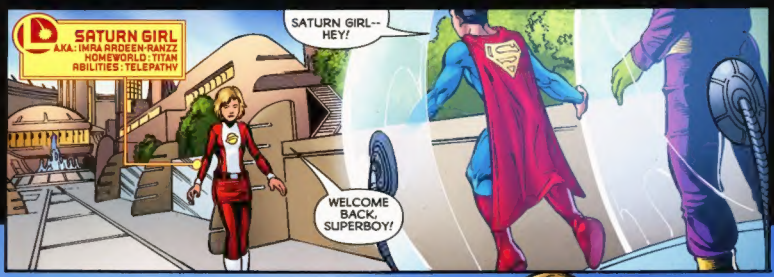
SMALLVILLE
LATE 20TH CENTURY EARTH:
MARTHA, YOU SEE CLARK AROUND?
HE FINISHED HIS CHORES EARLY, BUT HE DIDN'T SAY GOODBYE AS HE LEFT FOR SCHOOL.
COSTUME'S GONE--MAYBE HE WANTED TO PRACTICE BEFORE FOLKS WERE OUT AND COULD SEE HIM.
I DON'T THINK THAT'S IT, JONATHAN. LOOK.
HUMPH... NOT LIKE THE BOY.
PLAYING HOOKY
A TALE OF SUPERBOY & THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES
Paul Levitz Writer
Kevin Sharpe Penciller
Marlo Alquiza and Marc Deering Inkers
Blond Colorist
Sal Cipriano Letterer
Sean Ryan Associate Editor
Brian Cunningham Editor
Cover by Scott Clark and Dave Beaty
Variant Cover by Lee Bermejo
after Giffen and Mahlstedt

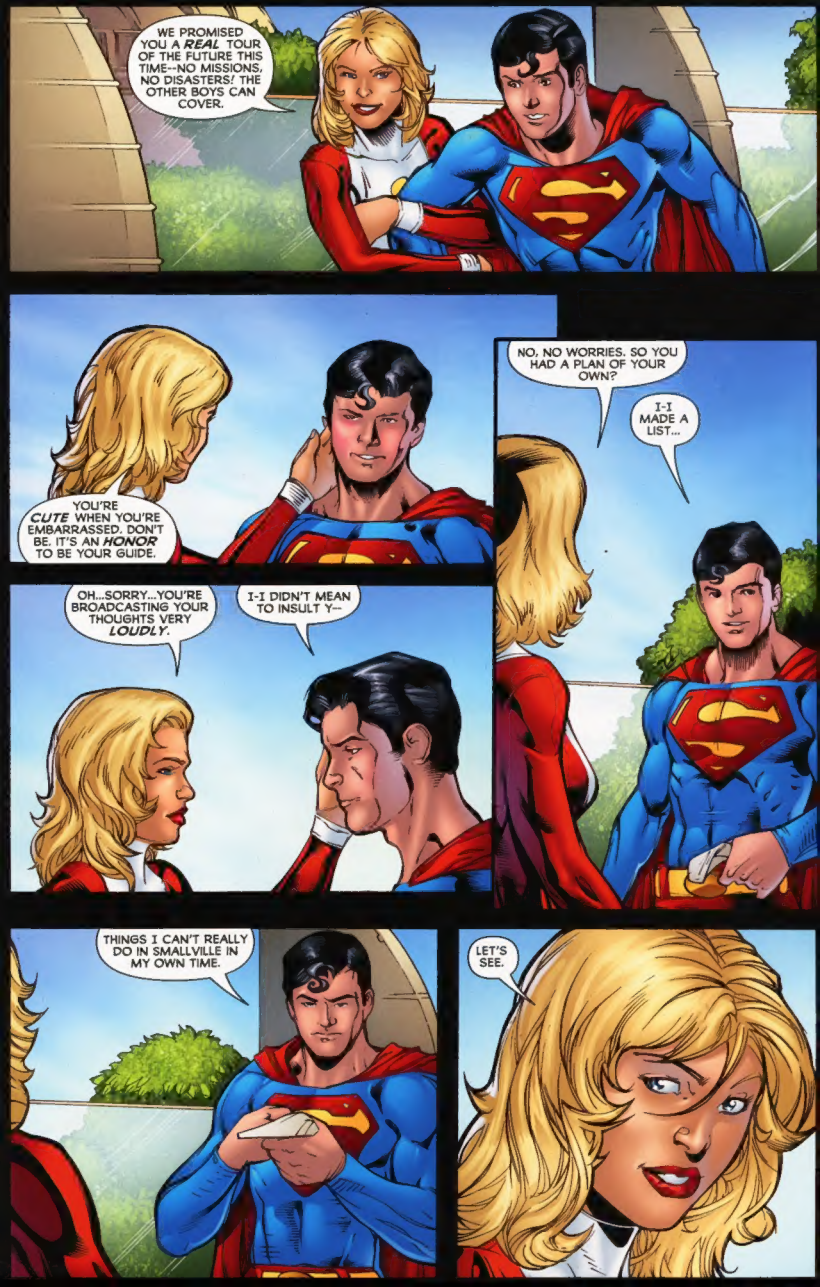
SUPERBOY
AKA: KAL-EL
HOMEWORLD: KRYPTON
ABILITIES: SUPER-STRENGTH, SPEED, SENSES, FLIGHT, INVULNERABILITY
BRAINIAC 5
AKA: QUERL DOX
HOMEWORLD: COLU
ABILITIES: 12TH LEVEL SUPER-INTELLIGENCE
THIS IS GOING TO BE GREAT!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, SUPERBOY--YOU'RE EXCITED BECAUSE YOU'RE AVOIDING AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND A DAY GAINING KNOWLEDGE?
MAYBE YOUR SCHOOL WAS FUN, BRAINY, BUT SMALLVILLE HIGH IS PURE TORTURE!
AND TODAY'S HOMECOMING--WHICH MEANS I'D BE ON TOP OF THE HAZING LIST!
BUT I'VE GOT MY OWN LIST INSTEAD!
WHAT MORON WOULD TRY TO HAZE YOU?
OH, YOU MEAN AS CLARK KENT.
THIS SECRET IDENTITY PRETENSE IS SUCH AN ARCHAISM. I HAVE DIFFICULTY REMEMBERING HOW IT WORKED.
BADLY.


I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT SCHOOL, ANYWAY.
THIS IS *AMAAAAZING!* I'VE NEVER EVEN GOTTEN TO EXPLORE METROPOLIS IN MY CENTURY--AND THIS LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A SCI-FI MOVIE!
NO, IT'S REAL.

78 MILLION SENTIENT INHABITANTS IN THE URBAN ZONE BEFORE YOU REACH THE GREENBELT, AND AT LEAST 8 X 10 TO THE 16TH POWER LESSER LIFE FORMS...NOT COUNTING *COCKROACHES.*
I *HATE* COCKROACHES.
NO ONE'S FIGURED OUT HOW TO GET RID OF THEM YET?
NO.


SATURN GIRL
AKA: IMRA ARDEEN-RANZZ
HOMEWORLD: TITAN
ABILITIES: TELEPATHY
SATURN GIRL-- HEY!
WELCOME BACK, SUPERBOY!

HOW'S OUR *LIVING LEGEND?*
UHHH...


WE PROMISED YOU A REAL TOUR OF THE FUTURE THIS TIME--NO MISSIONS, NO DISASTERS! THE OTHER BOYS CAN COVER.
YOU'RE CUTE WHEN YOU'RE EMBARRASSED. DON'T BE. IT'S AN HONOR TO BE YOUR GUIDE.
NO, NO WORRIES. SO YOU HAD A PLAN OF YOUR OWN?
I-I MADE A LIST...
OH...SORRY...YOU'RE BROADCASTING YOUR THOUGHTS VERY LOUDLY.
I-I DIDN'T MEAN TO INSULT Y--
THINGS I CAN'T REALLY DO IN SMALLVILLE IN MY OWN TIME.
LET'S SEE.

See the city!
"I KNOW EVERY CRACK IN THE SIDEWALK OF SMALLVILLE, AND COUNTED THE STEPS BETWEEN THEM. IT'S JUST SO BORING!
"THERE'S NOTHING TO DO, AND MY FOLKS WON'T LET ME LEAVE--THEY SAY IT'S NOT SAFE."
AS IF ANYTHING COULD HURT YOU.
I KEEP TELLING THEM THAT, BUT YOU KNOW PARENTS.
NOT REALLY--I WAS ORPHANED AS A BABY.
BUT DON'T WORRY--YOU'RE TOTALLY SAFE HERE!
I WANTED TO SEE MY CENTURY'S METROPOLIS FOR REAL, BECAUSE IT ALWAYS LOOKS SO INCREDIBLE ON TV...
BUT I BET IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO THIS!
IT CERTAINLY HAS FEWER TYPES OF ALIEN SENTIENTS, ANYWAY.

AND DON'T ALL THE CITIES IN YOUR TIME STINK OF *HYDROCARBONS* AND OTHER POLLUTION? I UNDERSTAND IT'S WORSE THAN THE OPEN SEWERS OF *MEDIEVAL TIMES!*
DOESN'T SEEM TO BOTHER PEOPLE TOO MUCH.
LIFESPANS WILL IMPROVE A LOT WHEN YOU GET RID OF THAT, THOUGH--AND STOP KILLING YOURSELVES WITH NICOTINE.
DOESN'T THE 31ST CENTURY HAVE BAD HABITS, TOO?
SURE. HERE'S MY FAVORITE--
--SHOPPING!
OKAY, I'M NOT IN KANSAS ANYMORE.

COSMIC BOY
A.K.A.: ROKK KRINN
HOMEWORLD: BRAAL
ABILITIES: MAGNETISM MANIPULATION
SPROING
HURRY UP, COS-- THIS WALL'S SHAKY.
TRIPLICATE GIRL
A.K.A.: LUORNU DURGO
HOMEWORLD: CARGG
ABILITIES: ABLE TO SPLIT INTO THREE BODIES
COLOSSAL BOY
A.K.A.: GIM ALLON
HOMEWORLD: EARTH
ABILITIES: GIANT GROWTH
ANY MORE INJURED *INSIDE?* WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF HANDS HERE!
I'LL GO IN AND CHECK!
PHANTOM GIRL
A.K.A.: TINYA WAZZO
HOMEWORLD: BGZTL
ABILITIES: INTANGIBILITY
LIGHTNING LAD
A.K.A.: GARTH RANZZ
HOMEWORLD: WINATH
ABILITIES: ELECTRICAL GENERATION AND DIRECTION

I'M MOVING IT AS CAREFULLY AS I CAN. IT DIDN'T CRASH VERY NEATLY.
KREAK
HEADS UP!
WALL'S GOING--NOW!
DUCK!
KRAKOOM

ALL CLEAR INSIDE.
GOOD--WHAT A *MESS!*
CAN WE TURN THIS OVER TO THE *SCIENCE POLICE* AND HIT THE SHOWERS?
I THOUGHT CRUISERS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE *LIGHT* CRAFT!
WHUMMP

BLACKEST NIGHT
AFTERMATH
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COMPARED TO STARLINERS, SURE!
BUT I BET IT WOULD'VE BEEN EASY FOR SUPERBOY!

EXCUSE ME, LEGIONNAIRES.
THAT CRUISER WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE DELIVERED THIS VACCINE TO THE SCIENCE POLICE ACADEMY ON MARS BY NOW.

WE'VE HAD AN ATTACK OF RED PLAGUE.

GIGI'S* STILL THERE, WAITING FOR HER NEW POSTING. WE CAN TAKE IT IN ONE OF OUR CRUISERS.
ANYTHING FASTER, COLOSSAL BOY? TIME CAN MEAN LIVES.
*S.P. OFFICER GIGI CUSIMANO, FORMER GIRLFRIEND OF COLOSSAL BOY--EDITOR LAD

HMMM..

I CAN'T LIVE UP TO THIS!
I'M INTIMIDATED BY THE IDEA THAT I'LL BE REMEMBERED THIS WAY--ALMOST LIKE BEING WORSHIPPED--A THOUSAND YEARS AFTER MY LIFE!
YOU'LL DO ALL THIS AND MORE. SUPERBOY. WHY DO YOU THINK YOU'RE OUR HERO?
CATCHING A FALLING CAR, EVEN STOPPING A BANK ROBBERY, SURE...
...BUT THESE ARE WORLD-DESTROYING MONSTERS! HOW DO I STOP THEM?
WHEN THE TIME COMES YOU'LL BE READY.
MEANWHILE, I'M GOING TO PUT A BLOCK IN YOUR MIND---SORT OF A POST-HYPNOTIC COMMAND, TO KEEP YOU FROM BEING INTIMIDATED OR CONFUSED--
--YOU WON'T RECALL CLEARLY ANYTHING YOU LEARN IN THE 31ST CENTURY ABOUT YOUR OWN FUTURE--
--AND EACH VISIT HERE WILL BE ALMOST LIKE A DREAM.
BZT
UH-OH-- LEGION ALERT.

SHORTLY...
I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I CAN FLY INTO SPACE.
HISTORY SAYS YOU CAN.
AND YOU'RE MUCH FASTER THAN ANY SPACESHIP WE'VE GOT.
MAYBE, BUT...
WELL...
...I WANTED TO TRY NEW THINGS!
WHOOSH
GO, LEGIONNAIRE!

WOW!
See the city!
Test what my powers can do
Welcome To
SMALLVILLE!
I HEAR PA'S VOICE RINGING IN MY EARS: "KNOW YOUR LIMITS, LAD. NO MATTER HOW STRONG YOU ARE, THERE ARE SOME THINGS BEYOND US ALL."
AND MA, TELLING ME TO MIND THE COUNTY LINE. UNTIL I'M READY FOR THE WORLD TO SEE ME.
WELL, THERE ARE LIVES DEPENDING ON ME...SO I BETTER BE READY!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BREATHE UP THERE, THOUGH?

IF THE LEGIONNAIRES SAY I CAN DO IT, I GUESS I.
CAN!
FEELS LIKE I CAN GO FASTER UP HERE--LESS RESISTANCE OR SOMETHING.
SUNSHINE FEELS STRONGER, TOO--BETTER, SOMEHOW.
WOW!
WHOOSH
OKAY, LET'S SEE WHAT I CAN DO--FULL THROTTLE!

I THINK YOU WERE WAITING FOR THIS, DOCTOR.
S-SUPERMAN?
EARTHBASE SAID YOU WERE BRINGING THE SERUM, BUT--
--YOU'RE JUST A MYTH!
IT'S SUPERBOY, DOC...
...BUT I GUESS I AM GROWING UP.

☑ See the city
☑ Test what my powers can do
☑ Play a ballgame without holding back
OOOF...
HOPE GROWING UP MEANS NOT HAVING TO PRETEND...OR AT LEAST NOT MINDING IT AS MUCH. HIDING MY POWERS ISN'T TOO BAD, BUT IT'S NO FUN LOOKING WIMPY.
WHY EXACTLY ARE WE DOING THIS?
CHAMELEON BOY
AKA REEP DAGGLE
HOMEWORLD DURLA
ABILITIES SHAPESHIFTING
HE ASKED US. BE A SPORT!

HEY, THAT'S A HOT FASTBALL!
DID YOU SNEAK SOMETHING METALLIC INSIDE THE BALL SO YOU COULD USE YOUR POWERS?
YOU SAID NO HOLDING BACK!
KRAK
NO PROBLEM!
OUT!
SMAK

KRAK
OPPOSITE FIELD, THIS TIME!
POP
SMAK
OUT NUMBER TWO!
KRAK
NO MORE EASY FLY BALLS--TRY THAT
IT'S A GROUNDER--YOU NEED TO TAG ME!
GOT IT!

GO INSIDE THE MINDS
OF BATMAN'S GREATEST VILLAINS!

FIVE DIFFERENT ONE SHOTS

JUNE 2010

JOKER'S ASYLUM

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I DON'T EVEN NEED MY SUPER-SPEED FOR THIS!
THUMP
AND OUT NUMBER THREE!
WHAT--??
INVISIBLE KID
A.K.A LYLE NORG
HOMEWORLD EARTH
ABILITIES INVISIBILITY
THAT ENDS YOUR HALF OF...WHAT DID YOU CALL IT--THE INNING--RIGHT?
AND DON'T EXPECT ME TO GO EASY ON YOU! AFTER ALL--IT'S NINE AGAINST ONE!
YOU HAVE MORE POWERS THAN ALL OF US PUT TOGETHER, SUPERBOY--DON'T COMPLAIN!
WHY ISN'T BRAINIAC 5 PLAYING TOO?

IT'S TOO FRIVOLOUS FOR HIM.
BET YOU A KISS YOU CAN'T BEAT US, THOUGH!
YOU'RE ON, P.G.
COSMIC BOY, YOU'RE GOING DOWN!
I'M FAST ENOUGH TO TAKE ALL YOU AMATEURS!
THOOM
HUH?
EXCUSE ME, LEGIONNAIRES!
WHOOSH

WHOOSH
OH NO...
SUPERBOY!
BRAINIAC 5!
NEVER MIND ME.
YOU HAVE TO STOP THE FIRE BEFORE IT REACHES THE MAIN REACTOR FEED--SIX MORE MINUTES AND THE WHOLE BUILDING COULD GO UP!
CHECK.

THIS ALL LOOKS LIKE A *DISASTER*-- SHOULD'VE BROUGHT BRAINY ALONG SO HE COULD POINT OUT THAT "MAIN REACTOR FEED" OR WHATEVER.
BEST ANSWER IS TO PUT OUT THE WHOLE FIRE, I GUESS.
FWOOSH
SHOOOM

KA
THOOM
WHAT HAPPENED?
THE CLUBHOUSE!
ARE YOU OKAY, SUPERBOY?
FINE. I GUESS HAVING A LEGIONNAIRE WITH SUPER-SPEED CAN COME IN HANDY.
THERE'S A REASON YOUR LEGEND'S GONE DOWN IN HISTORY!

BOOOM!
DOWN THE DRAIN WITH MORE CREDITS, EH, GREEN ONE?
THIRD LABORATORY GONE BLOOEY SINCE YOU JOIN MY LITTLE LEGION, EH?
R.J. BRANDE
HOMEWORLD: DURLA
QUINTILLIONAIRE AND LEGION BENEFACTOR
I WAS TESTING A NEW RADIATION WAVELENGTH TO DESTROY COCKROACH INFESTATION. BUT THE BUGS ARE TOUGHER THAN THE ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIALS. BAHHH!
YES, YES--THE TIME TRAVEL PATENTS ALONE...BUT SANITATION IMPROVEMENT BEGINS HERE, MY OVERINTELLECTUAL FRIEND.
IT WAS SIMPLY A LITTLE IDEA--IMPROVE SANITATION, HEALTH...
BESIDES, MY INVENTIONS HAVE MORE THAN PAID YOU BACK FOR ALL THE EQUIPMENT I DESTROY.
CLEAN UP QUICK--QUICK, MAYBE FASTER THAN OTHER LEGIONNAIRES STRAIGHTEN SELVES OUT FROM SILLY BALLGAME WITH SOUVENIR LEGEND YOU FIND ME FROM HISTORY BOOKS...
...AND MAYBE YOU BE IN TIME FOR PARTY
PARTY?

(✓) See the city
(✓) Test what my powers can do
(✓) Play a ballgame without holding back
(✓) Have fun at a party
KONO JUICE, BRAINY? ISN'T THAT THE "IN" DRINK ON COLU...?
...THINK WE OUGHT TO DO MORE OPEN CALLS FOR NEW...
I NEVER HAD A PARTY LIKE THIS!
BET YOU NEVER WON A SOFTBALL GAME, EITHER, BIG GUY!
PH-PHANTOM GIRL?

I ALWAYS PAY MY DEBTS...
AND IT'S TINYA.
FWOOSH
I-I'M SORRY
NO DAMAGE--TO ME. ANYWAY
MAYBE YOU SHOULD GET OUT MORE?

☑ See the city
☑ Test what my powers can do
☑ Play a ballgame without holding back
☑ Have fun at a party
☑ Kiss a girl without my glasses on
AHEM-- EXCUSE ME.
MY TURN.
YOU MEAN, OUR TURN!
HA HA HA...LITTLE BOYS AND GIRLS AT PLAY! DOES AN OLD MAN'S HEART GOOD!
YOU WERE GOING TO EXPLAIN WHY YOU FUND THE LEGION, MISTER BRANDE?
WHAT ARE A QUINTILLION CREDITS FOR, LAD? MAN MUST AMUSE HIMSELF-- AND IF REASONS ARE NECESSARY, WELL--
--TRUST OLD R.J. BRANDE. REASONS APLENTY.

PLENTY OF TIME LEFT IF THERE'S *MORE* ON YOUR LIST, SUPERBOY.
I'M READY, SATURN GIRL.
IT WAS A *PERFECT* DAY.
IF PHANTOM GIRL HADN'T MADE THAT BET WITH YOU, *I* WAS GOING TO KISS YOU.
I'D LIKE THAT. BUT MAYBE WE SHOULD *WAIT*...
...UNTIL I HAVE BETTER CONTROL OVER MYSELF.
THAT'S THE HARDEST TRICK.
BUT YOU'LL SUCCEED, I KNOW.
I WISH I COULD LET YOU BE AS SURE AS *I* AM, SUPERBOY...
...BUT THAT'S BETWEEN ME AND *HISTORY*...
...AND YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN YOUR FUTURE, DAY BY DAY.

GOOD DAY, SON?
PRETTY MUCH PERFECT, DAD.
I'M GLAD--BUT DON'T MAKE A HABIT OUT OF PLAYING HOOKY.
LIFE'S FULL OF RESPONSIBILITIES... AND I THINK YOU'LL HAVE MORE THAN A FAIR SHARE.
THESE SHOULDERS ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO CARRY THEM.
HOPE SO, DAD.
EVER WONDER IF YOU COULD SEE THE FUTURE AND KNOW FOR SURE?
NOT REALLY... I KNOW YOU, SO I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A FUTURE AHEAD THAT'S MORE THAN I COULD EVER IMAGINE.
YOUR MOTHER AND I ARE SO PROUD OF WHO YOU ALREADY ARE--
--WE'D BURST IF WE COULD SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GROW UP.
I THINK I SAW SOME OF MY FUTURE, DAD. BUT IT'S ALL FUZZY--LIKE IT WAS A DREAM.
A REALLY GOOD DREAM.

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YOU KNOW HOW IT ALL STARTS FADING AFTER YOU WAKE UP?
C'MON IN, CLARK--YOUR MOTHER'S BEEN BAKING A FRESH APPLE PIE FOR YOU.
THAT'S ENOUGH FUTURE FOR ME, PA.
( ) See the city
(✓) Test what my powers can do
(✓) Play a ballgame without holding back
(✓) Have fun at a party
(✓) Kiss a girl without my glasses on
(✓) Be myself

NEXT: BRANDE SPEAKS

(and the real story of how the Legion was founded)

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I AM NOT UNAWARE OF YOUR FEELINGS FOR BATMAN...
...BUT DON'T LET IT BLIND YOU. MEN SUCH AS HE DO NOT LET THE NATURE OF BATTLE AFFECT THEM. HE IS A WARRIOR. DEATH IS HIS MAIDEN.
BRUCE DOESN'T KILL. AND HE RAISED JASON TODD. HE WILL NEVER RECOVER FROM THIS.
THIS DISCOURSE IS NOT TIME WELL SERVED. MONITOR THE TALK IN GOTHAM IF YOU LIKE, BUT MIND YOUR WORK.
AND YOU WILL NOT REACH OUT TO HIM. NOT ON THIS. UNDERSTOOD?

UNDERSTOOD.

THE BOY HAS SKILLS.
SHOW ME.

IMPRESSIVE. WHAT DO WE KNOW?
HALF DEAD, MASSIVE TRAUMA, FLASH BURNS FROM AN EXPLOSION. FOUND WANDERING A ROAD IN A SUIT AND TIE, COVERED IN SOIL. HANDS INDICATED THAT HE DUG HIMSELF OUT OF A BURIED COFFIN.

TO BE CONTINUED IN RED HOOD #1 IN STORES JUNE 2010

REVENGE GETS UGLY

What's up, DC Nation? It's summer movie season, and for comics fans that means a chance to see some of our favorite characters come to life on the silver screen. On June 18th DC's resident badass of the Wild West, Jonah Hex, hits theaters everywhere. "Jonah Hex" is an epic adventure thriller about one man's personal quest for redemption against the vast canvas of the battle between good and evil. The film stars Academy Award® nominee **Josh Brolin** ("Milk"), two-time Academy Award® nominee **John Malkovich** ("In the Line of Fire," "Places in the Heart"), **Megan Fox** ("Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen"), **Michael Fassbender** ("Inglourious Basterds"), **Will Arnett** ("Blades of Glory") and Academy Award® nominee **Michael Shannon** ("Revolutionary Road"). Personally, I can't wait for all the shooting to start, but I need to contain my excitement long enough to tell you about some other cool Jonah Hex projects you can get your hands on.

In addition to our excellent monthly Jonah Hex series, this month also introduces the original graphic novel Jonah Hex: No Way Back. Written by acclaimed Hex scribes **Jimmy Palmiotti** & **Justin Gray** and featuring art by legendary Hex illustrator **Tony Dezuniga**, No Way back features some surprising truths about Hex's family and his epic battle with El Papagayo. It's on sale now, and you should go pick it up.

Also arriving in time for the movie are several busts and a menacing 1:6 scale deluxe Jonah Hex figure from DC Direct. And if all this wasn't enough, you will also be able to pick up the new Jonah Hex Motion Comics. Three of his legendary tales have been brought to life, panel by panel, for the first time ever, featuring an original soundtrack and full cast of voice actors, and are available now.

We hope you enjoy Jonah Hex. Be sure to get back here next week for an exclusive preview of another all-new DC project!

Be seeing you,

Ian Sattler, Senior Story Editor DCU

DC NATION

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(s10)

Angelic Legion